



USAID/U.S. Embassy Beijing Newsletter



USAID Mission:

We partner to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity.

May 2015

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Recent Activities in USAID

International Women's Day

USAID joined the international community to celebrate International Women's Day and commemorate achievements of women and girls throughout the world. This year, the United Nations is using International Women's Day to highlight the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a historic roadmap signed 20 years ago by 189 governments that sets the agenda for realizing women's rights.

Focusing on women and girls is the smartest and most strategic investment the United States can make to improve lives around the world. From Burma to Afghanistan to Senegal, we see the profound impact of our investments in women and girls—transforming economies, saving lives, and expanding unprecedented opportunities. we see women teachers in Liberia reopening schools, scientists in Thailand propelling environmental research, and entrepreneurs improving agribusiness in Ethiopia.

To achieve USAID's mission of ending extreme poverty, we must invest in women and girls as development champions who can lift up their communities from the inside out.

Nigeria and Kenya: USAID is closing the internet gender gap through a public-private partnership that will bring 600,000 women online in the next three years—helping them launch businesses, access basic services, and gain a political voice.

Afghanistan: USAID officially launched our PROMOTE Partnership, the largest program in our Agency's history focused on empowering women. It will help 75,000 women achieve leadership roles in all parts of society, from business to academia to politics.

Let Girls Learn

We know that investing in women and girls is not only the right thing to do; it is also fundamental to global economic growth. One more year of education can increase a woman's income by up to 25 percent. She is likely to reinvest 90 percent of that income in her family's nutrition, education, and health care. It is no surprise that children born to educated mothers are twice as likely to survive past the age of five.

After nearly 300 schoolgirls were kidnapped in Nigeria, USAID redoubled our efforts to expand quality education opportunities for millions of displaced and out-of-school children around the country. In Jordan, we are providing emergency education to 100,000 child refugees—including 60,000 girls—who have been forced to flee violence. In Afghanistan, we are empowering thousands of women with professional training for high-growth sectors, like technology, healthcare, and engineering. And when the Ebola epidemic shut down schools for months in Liberia, we used community radio stations to broadcast education programming into half of the entire country, every morning and night.

As a whole-of-government initiative, *Let Girls Learn* will build on decades of work that we have spearheaded across the globe. Under its new expansion, our Agency will focus on three core objectives: increasing access to quality education, reducing barriers to success, and empowering adolescent girls. Reflecting the broad support for *Let Girls Learn*, we will partner with the White House, Peace Corps and Department of State on several groundbreaking initiatives.



Globally, 62 million girls are not in school. As a girl grows older the fight to get an education becomes even harder. Her family must be willing to pay school fees. She risks long, unsafe walks to school. She may be forced to marry. And she often lacks access to healthcare and the support she needs to learn.



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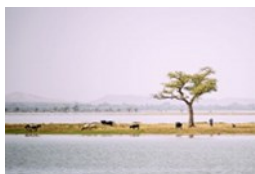
Global Resilience Partnership Selects 17 Teams for Challenge

The Global Resilience Partnership, an alliance between USAID and Rockefeller Foundation, announced the Global Resilience Challenge last year for the purpose of calling for bold and innovative solutions to the toughest disaster challenges facing by priority regions. From among over 500 applicants across six continents, 17 teams representing all regions of the world will move forward to Stage II.

During Stage II, teams will further develop their problem statements, examine the root causes of the challenges present in their regions and propose solutions and implementation plans. In Stage III, awards up to \$1 million will be made to the best plans to scale up these solutions in each region.

More information on

<http://www.globalresiliencepartnership.org/>



On the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, USAID launched the **Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge**, a site where organizations and individuals can submit innovative science and technology solutions to help combat the illegal trafficking of marine and terrestrial wildlife. The Challenge focuses on four issue areas:

- detecting transit routes
- strengthening forensic evidence
- reducing consumer demand
- tackling corruption

Winners will receive financial, technical, and other assistance to scale their solutions.

More information on

<https://www.wildlifecrimetech.org>

Recently Released: President's Malaria Initiative Strategy 2015–2020

Recently at the White House, the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), led by USAID and implemented together with the US Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), launched its next six-year strategy.

Scale-up of malaria control interventions between 2001 and 2013 has resulted in an estimated 4.3 million fewer malaria deaths. Of these, 3.9 million (92 percent) were in children less than five years of age

in sub-Saharan Africa. The ten countries with the highest estimated malaria burden in 2000 accounted for 57 percent of malaria cases and 68 percent of malaria deaths averted between 2001 and 2013. During the same time period, estimated malaria mortality decreased by 54 percent in the WHO African Region overall and by 58 percent in children under the age of five. In Asia, the Americas, and the Pacific Islands, declining levels of transmission and the lower baseline prevalence of *P. falciparum* infections has moved a number of countries toward eliminating malaria transmission.

Building upon the progress to date in PMI-supported countries, PMI will work with partners to accomplish the following **objectives** by 2020:

1. Reduce malaria mortality by one-third from 2015 levels in PMI-supported countries, achieving a greater than 80 percent

reduction from PMI's original 2000 baseline levels.

2. Reduce malaria morbidity in PMI-supported countries by 40 percent from 2015 levels.
3. Assist at least five PMI-supported countries to meet the WHO criteria for national or sub-national pre-elimination.

To achieve these objectives, PMI will take a strategic approach which emphasizes the following five areas:

1. Achieving and sustaining scale of proven interventions
2. Adapting to changing epidemiology and incorporating new tools
3. Improving countries' capacity to collect and use information
4. Mitigating risk against the current malaria control gains
5. Building capacity and health systems.





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What's New in Beijing USAID

The 5th International Roundtable on China-Africa Health Collaboration

The 5th International Roundtable on China-Africa Health Collaboration was held in Beijing on March 26-27, co-hosted by Tsinghua University and the China Chamber of Commerce for Import & Export of Medicines & Health Products. USAID has been an active partner in the preparation of this annual conference since it initiated in 2010. In addition to USAID Beijing counselor, the USAID Deputy Assistant Administration of Global Health, Ms. Jennifer Adams, led 2 USAID technical experts on malaria

participated in the conference and spoke as a panelist in the Session "What Concrete Actions Are Needed to Provide Safe Quality Health Commodities". Ms. Adams pointed out that Substandard/Spurious/Falsely-labelled/Falsified/Counterfeit Medicines (SSFFCs) account for about 10-30% of medicine in developing countries where consumers, especially in Africa. Ms. Adams spoke highly of China's contribution to the world anti-malaria efforts, and shared with the audience how the U.S. government respond to drug quality problems. She called for more attention on tackling SSFFCs issues in China-Africa health cooperation.

A policy recommendation was agreed among participants of the Roundtable and submitted to relevant government/agencies.

USAID participants at the Roundtable



Final Assessment of Tri-lateral Food Security Project in Timor Leste

The first tri-lateral Project among the U.S., China and Timor Leste was agreed upon by the three governments in October 2013.

During the one-year operation, more than 100 university students, extension staffs, NGOs and farmers were trained on new technologies of growing maize, bean and onion. Market surveys were conducted in order to better understand the supply chain linking farmers with the market.

On April 20-25, 2015, the three countries jointly conducted a final assessment in Timor Leste to review the trilateral cooperation and its

benefits to local people.

The final assessment team was composed of officials and experts from the three countries, meetings with beneficiaries and a field visit were organized. Ms. Maria Rendon and Ms. Han Zheng of USAID Beijing, experts from USAID Food Security Bureau and the State Department participated in the final assessment.



The assessment team and local beneficiaries. Demonstration field in Timor Leste.

Latest News of USAID in response to Nepal Earthquake—As of May 13, 2015

- ☐ The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)—comprising nearly 130 humanitarian and urban search-and-rescue (USAR) personnel, conducts a live rescue in Kathmandu.
- ☐ Heavy-duty plastic sheeting from USAID arrived in Nepal to support the critical shelter needs of earthquake-affected communities.
- ☐ On May 10, four USAID-procured interagency emergency health kits (IEHKs) arrived in Nepal. Each IEHK contains a standardized package of essential medicines, supplies, and equipment sufficient to address the medical needs of 10,000 people for a period of three months.
- ☐ By May 13, 2015, total U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian assistance to Nepal earthquake was \$32.3 million.

We welcome you comments and suggestions.

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